

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 6-11 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7 are amended and claim 3 and 5 are canceled. Further, claims 8-11 are added. Support for the amendments to claim 1 and 6 may be found at least on page 11, lines 7-18, and in Fig. 1. Support for the amendments to claims 7 and 11 may be found at least on page 13, lines 5-10 of the specification. No new matter is added by the above amendment. In view of at least the following, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

I. Interview Summary

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representatives by Examiner Huynh in the September 13, 2007 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

II. Claim Objection

The Office Action objects to claim 3 over an informality. This objection is respectfully traversed.

By this Amendment, claim 3 is cancelled. Thus, the objection as to claim 3 is moot.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

III. Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejects claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 7,051,271 (Chiu). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

By this Amendment, claims 3 and 5 are cancelled. Thus, the rejection as to claims 3 and 5 are moot.

Independent claim 1 recites, in part, "an input unit that allows a user to electronically add user data to a second material which has been electronically distributed to the user in relation to a first material which is used when the continuous data is recorded" (emphasis added).

Similarly, independent claim 6 recites, in part, "allowing a user to electronically add user data to a second material which has been electronically distributed to the user in relation to a first material actually which is used when continuous data is recorded" (emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully submit that Chiu fails to teach the above-identified features recited in the presently claimed invention. For example, independent claims 1 and 6, as discussed above, allow, in part, the user to electronically add data to a second material, the second material having been electronically distributed to the user. However, because Chiu allegedly relates to a method for linking a scanned document to a video segment, Chiu fails to teach, disclose or suggest that the user electronically add data to material that was electronically distributed.

Indeed, the Examiner is directed to the Abstract of Chiu. The abstract of Chiu discloses, in part, "[f]urthermore, annotations made on the paper documents during the meeting can be extracted and used as indexes to the video."

Applicants also respectfully request that the Examiner review Chiu, column 7, lines 1-9. Here Chiu discloses that "[t]o extract the ink annotations, a simple comparison between the original and the annotated paper handout may be performed. When more than one set of handouts have been annotated, these ink strokes may be extracted and selectively layered over the common background of the scanned document." This disclosure plainly discloses that there may be a plurality of paper handouts that are annotated with ink strokes. Thus, the user cannot electronically add data to the handout, as recited in the presently claimed invention (i.e., at least claims 1 and 6).

With regards to independent claim 7, claim 7 recites, in part, **extracting ... (ii) an electronically readable identifier** assigned to the second material, by reading an image of a printed material; and causing user data to be related to a corresponding position in the continuous data where the first material is used, based upon (i) the **extracted electronically**

readable identifier and (ii) a corresponding relationship between the second material and the first material.

Applicants respectfully submit that Chiu fails to teach, disclose or suggest assigning a document identifier such as a bar code (or any other electronically readable identifier) prior to the scanning or distribution of the original material.

Therefore, Chiu fails to teach, disclose or suggest the above-quoted features recited in claims 1, 6 and 7. Thus, Chiu fails to disclose each and every element recited in c claims 1, 6 and 7.

Claims 2 and 4 depend from claim 1. Because Chiu fails to teach, disclose or suggest the features recited in independent claim 1, dependent claims 2 and 4 are patentable for at least the reasons that claim 1 is patentable, as well as for the additional features they recite.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. 35 U.S.C. § 103(c)

Pursuant to § 103(c), subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art under § 102(e), shall not preclude patentability under § 103(a) where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time of the claimed invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

Applicants respectfully submit that at the time of the claimed invention was made, Chiu and the presently claimed invention were commonly owned. Specifically, the presently claimed invention was subject to an obligation of assignment to the same assignee as Chiu.

V. New Claims

Claims 8-10 variously depend from claims 6 and 7. Thus, claims 8-10 are allowable for the same reasons that claims 6 and 7 are allowable as well as for the additional features they recite.

Independent claim 11 recites, in part, "an extraction unit that extracts (i) user data which is written by a user into the second material in relation to a first material which is used when continuous data is recorded and (ii) an electronically readable identifier assigned to the second material; and a relating unit that causes the extracted user data to be related to a corresponding position in the continuous data where the first material is used, based upon (i) the extracted electronically readable identifier and (ii) a correspondence relation between the first material and the second material."

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 11 is allowable for the same reasons that claim 7 is allowable as well as for the additional features it recites. Specifically, Chiu fails to teach, disclose or suggest the extraction of an electronically readable identifier assigned to the second material. Further, Chiu fails to teach, disclose or suggest a relating unit that relates the extracted user data to a position in the continuous data based at least upon the extracted electronically readable identifier.

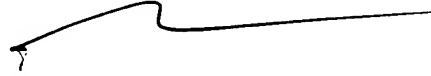
Accordingly, allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

VI. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Eric D. Morehouse
Registration No. 38,565

JAO:DQS/jfb

Date: September 14, 2007

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--